



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
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New Hampshire Perfluorochemicals (PFC) Blood Testing Information

The NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is supporting the NH Department of Environmental Services' (NHDES) ongoing investigation into the presence of perfluorochemicals (PFCs) in New Hampshire drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released Health Advisories in May 2016 which recommend that individuals should not consume drinking water with levels of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), or PFOA and PFOS combined above 70 parts per trillion (ppt).

To provide residents with information about their exposure, DHHS is offering blood testing to residents whose drinking water supply has been contaminated with perfluorochemicals above 70 ppt. Residents of Amherst, Bedford, Litchfield, Manchester, and Merrimack who are on private wells and live on streets in areas eligible for bottled drinking water through NHDES are eligible. DHHS is also offering testing to individuals who worked on, lived on, or attended child care on the Pease Tradeport, where a well was found to have elevated levels of PFCs in May 2014. Testing may be expanded if new data indicate new areas where drinking water supplies were contaminated by PFCs above the EPA's health advisory levels.

Residents who meet the criteria above and are interested in participating in the DHHS PFC Blood Testing Program are encouraged to go to <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/pfcs/blood-testing.htm> to register. Residents who do not have computer access or have questions about blood testing should call the DHHS Public Inquiry Line at 603-271-9461, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

For individuals whose drinking water was not found to have PFOA and/or PFOS above 70 ppt but who still wish to have their blood tested, below are two laboratories that offer testing to individuals through their provider:

Vista Analytical Laboratory

916-673-1520, www.vista-analytical.com

NMS Laboratory

866-522-2206, www.nmslabs.com

The Southern NH Medical Center laboratory is able to send specimens to the NMS laboratory for PFOA testing (with a primary care provider order) at a lower cost than what NMS laboratory would charge an individual alone. Healthcare providers can contact SNHMC with questions.

Individuals concerned about potential health effects from drinking contaminated water should talk with their healthcare provider. Individuals interested in having their blood tested for PFCs should understand the uses and limitations of a PFC blood test before deciding on testing. A PFC blood test can tell you about how much of specific PFCs are in your body at the time of the test, but a PFC blood test cannot:

- tell you where or how you were exposed to PFCs found in your body
- tell you what, if any, health problems might occur, or have occurred, because of PFCs in your body
- be used by your doctor to guide treatment decisions

DHHS will continue to provide information and recommendations to healthcare providers so that they can have an informed discussion with their patients about what PFC exposure might mean for someone's health. For more information about PFCs, visit <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/pfcs/pfc-nh-response.htm> and <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>.

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